

HOUSE RESOLUTION 98
By Stanley

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Thomas C. Farnsworth, Jr. upon his receipt of the Cook Halle Award.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who through their extraordinary efforts have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy individual is Thomas C. Farnsworth, Jr., who was recently honored with the Cook Halle Award from Carnival Memphis, given to commend him for his outstanding contributions to the real estate industry and to the Memphis community; and

WHEREAS, a Memphis native, Mr. Farnsworth was educated at Baylor Preparatory School and the University of Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, after serving with great valor in the Air Force Reserves, Thomas Farnsworth returned to Memphis to pursue a career in commercial real estate with Wilkinson & Snowden, Inc.; with this respected firm, he was involved in the sales and leasing of the industrial park properties of the tremendously successful Airport Industrial Park; and

WHEREAS, in 1971, Mr. Farnsworth partnered with Trammell Crow to establish the Trammell Crown-Farnsworth Company, which developed warehouse buildings and office properties in Memphis and across the Southeast; and

WHEREAS, again focusing his efforts on developing industrial and business park properties, Thomas C. Farnsworth, Jr. formed the Farnsworth Investment Company; today the company develops, owns and manages real estate investments for its own account, including numerous build-to-suit facilities and distribution centers built for lease to national and international firms; and

WHEREAS, a recent project, *Distriplex Center*, is a planned distribution business park that spans 100 acres and contains more than 1,250,000 square feet of distribution buildings, and the company's newest project, *Distriplex Farms*, houses storage, processing and distribution centers for major companies, including Metabolife, Expeditors, Dixie Homecrafters, Discover Card, Ozburn Hessey, Mac Papers, Cintas, International Paper Company, Toshiba and Games Workshop; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his work with Farnsworth Investment Company, Mr. Farnsworth still finds time to lend his remarkable talents to numerous notable causes; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Farnsworth, Jr. has established a remarkable legacy of community involvement, having served as President of Lambda Alpha International, as President of the Memphis Chapter of the Society of Office and Industrial Realtors, as the King of Carnival Memphis, as a Member of the Board of Directors of the Memphis Area Chamber of Commerce, as Director of the Memphis Food Bank and as President and Chairman of the Shelby County Economic Development Committee; he was also the inaugural inductee of the Memphis Area Association of Realtors Commercial Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, since 1988, Mr. Farnsworth has served on the Board of Commissioners of the Memphis-Shelby County Airport Authority; having served as the Chairman of the External

Affairs Committee, he was responsible for the land planning and implementation of zoning for the Aviation Facilities Planned Development for the airport; and

WHEREAS, Thomas C. Farnsworth, Jr. has been instrumental in coordinating the efforts of the Federal Aviation Administration, the City of Memphis and the State of Tennessee in order to secure the necessary funding for numerous airport projects; he currently serves as the Chairman of the Planning and Development Committee that oversees the planning, development and remodeling of all land and facilities associated with the Memphis International Airport; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Farnsworth is most grateful for the love and companionship he shares with his wife, Elizabeth "Liz" McDavid Farnsworth, and their children, Thomas C. Farnsworth III and Muffy Farnsworth Turley, and their six grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Farnsworth epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Thomas C. Farnsworth, Jr. for his dedication to the State of Tennessee and its citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby honor and commend Thomas C. Farnsworth, Jr. for his meritorious service to the State of Tennessee, congratulate him upon his receipt of the Cook Halle Award and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.